

I want everyone within the sound of my voice to understand what an extraordinary man he is and how much good he has done. I have watched his progress from the days we spent together on the subcommittee and the committee in the House, and we talked about the environment. This Nobel Peace Prize is a reflection of the man and his accomplishments.

Is there anyone who doubts today that global warming is real? I don't think so. If they do, they are in a very distinct minority. Global warming is here and we must act. Listen to what Vice President Gore says regarding the challenge. He says we must have optimism. He said:

We sometimes emphasize the danger in a crisis without focusing on the opportunities that are there. We should feel a great sense of urgency because it is the most dangerous crisis we have ever faced, by far. But it also provides us with opportunities to do a lot of things we ought to be doing for other reasons anyway. And to solve this crisis, we can develop a shared sense of moral purpose.

Does that depict what a great man he is? Al Gore looks at this optimistically, saying these are things we should have been doing, but we are not doing it, so let's work together to fight the scourge facing our world.

On behalf of our former colleague and my friend, Vice President Al Gore, I am so pleased to support this resolution. More important than passing this resolution, which has happened, I hope all my colleagues will honor his cause and moral purpose to continue the fight to reverse the threat of global warming and leave an Earth to our children and grandchildren that is safe, clean, and livable.

HONORING NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNERS IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 350.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 350) honoring the achievements of Mario R. Capecchi, Sir Martin J. Evans, and Oliver Smithies of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 350) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 350

Whereas Mario R. Capecchi was born in Italy in 1937 and earned a PhD in biophysics from Harvard University in 1967;

Whereas Sir Martin J. Evans was born in Great Britain in 1941 and earned a PhD in anatomy and embryology from University College in London in 1969;

Whereas Oliver Smithies was born in Great Britain in 1925 and earned a PhD in biochemistry from Oxford University in 1951;

Whereas Mario Capecchi currently serves as Distinguished Professor of Human Genetics and Biology at the University of Utah School of Medicine;

Whereas Sir Martin J. Evans currently serves as the Professor of Mammalian Genetics and Director of the School of Biosciences at Cardiff University in Wales;

Whereas Oliver Smithies currently serves as an Excellence Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill;

Whereas Mario R. Capecchi, Sir Martin J. Evans, and Oliver Smithies have made a series of discoveries concerning embryonic stem cells and deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) recombination in mammals that have led to the creation of gene targeting in mice, a powerful technology that is now being used in all areas of biomedicine;

Whereas gene targeting technology has been used in experiments that have successfully isolated genes in order to determine their roles in embryonic development, adult physiology, aging, and disease;

Whereas gene targeting has produced more than 500 different mouse models of human disorders, including cardiovascular and neuron degenerative diseases, diabetes, and cancer;

Whereas, on October 8, 2007, Mario R. Capecchi, Sir Martin J. Evans, and Oliver Smithies were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their discoveries of principles for introducing specific gene modifications in mice by the use of embryonic stem cells: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors and recognizes the scientific work and achievements of Mario R. Capecchi, Sir Martin J. Evans, and Oliver Smithies; and

(2) congratulates Mario R. Capecchi, Sir Martin J. Evans, and Oliver Smithies for their receipt of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2179, S. 2180, S. 2184, S. 2185, H.R. 2102, AND H.R. 3678 EN BLOC

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand there are six bills at the desk. I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will report the bills by title for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2179) to authorize certain programs and activities in the Forest Service, the Department of the Interior, and the Department of Energy, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2180) to authorize certain programs and activities in the Department of the Interior, the Forest Service, and the Department of Energy, and to amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2184) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently allow penalty-free withdrawals from retirement plans for individuals called to active duty for at least 179 days.

A bill (S. 2185) to permanently extend the current marginal tax rates.

A bill (H.R. 2102) to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing

conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media.

A bill (H.R. 3678) to amend the Internet Tax Freedom Act to extend the moratorium on certain taxes relating to the Internet and to electronic commerce.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now ask for their second reading en bloc, but I object to my own request en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bills will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

S. 2179 AND S. 2180

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources has reported over 70 individual bills and resolutions this Congress. Most of these bills are authorizations for specific projects and activities in the Department of the Interior, although we have also reported several measures involving National Forest lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture, as well as a few authorizations related to the Department of Energy.

Typically these bills would be considered in the Senate under a unanimous consent procedure. Unfortunately, although all of these bills are non-controversial and all were reported unanimously by the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, we have been unable to get consent to pass these bills.

In an effort to facilitate passage of these bills, today I am introducing two bills which contain the individual measures reported by the committee. The first bill, the National Forests, Parks, Public Land, and Reclamation Projects Authorization Act of 2007, includes the text of 25 bills and 1 resolution which have been passed by the House of Representatives and which were reported, or their Senate companion measure was reported, without substantive amendment by the committee. If considered as individual bills, upon passage in the Senate, these bills would have been cleared for the President. Since they will now be included as part of this comprehensive bill, it will require additional action by the House of Representatives, but I am hopeful that because all of the measures included in this bill were previously approved by the other body that they will be able to approve this bill expeditiously.

The second bill, the Natural Resource Projects and Programs Authorization Act of 2007, includes the text of 44 bills which originated in the Senate, or which passed the House of Representatives and were substantively amended in committee. Like the previous bill, all of the individual bills were reported unanimously by the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. While the House of Representatives has not previously acted on all of the individual components of this new bill, I believe these bills are non-controversial, and I hope that the House will be able to consider this bill in a timely manner as well.

Mr. President, I have prepared a table identifying the individual measures that are included in both comprehensive bills, including references

to the corresponding calendar numbers. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the table to which I just referred.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NATIONAL FORESTS, PARKS, PUBLIC LAND, AND RECLAMATION PROJECTS AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

Forest Service Authorizations			
Sec. 101	Cal. 255	H.R. 886	Wild Sky wilderness
Sec. 102	Cal. 361	H.R. 247	Jim Weaver trail
Bureau of Land Management Authorizations			
Sec. 201	Cal. 251	H.R. 276	Piedras Blancas Historic Light Station
National Park Service Authorizations			
Sec. 301	Cal. 35	S. 324	NPS cooperative agreements (H.R. 658)
Sec. 311	Cal. 378	H.R. 1100	Carl Sandburg NHS boundary adjustment
Sec. 321	Cal. 232	H.R. 376	Newtonia Civil War battlefields study
Sec. 322	Cal. 236	H.R. 1047	Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum study
Sec. 323	Cal. 362	H.R. 407	Columbia-Pacific heritage area study
Sec. 331	Cal. 233	H.R. 497	Francis Marion Commemorative Work
Sec. 332	Cal. 363	H.R. 995	Disabled veterans memorial authorization
Sec. 333	Cal. 234	H.R. 512	American Latino museum commission
Sec. 334	Cal. 377	H.R. 1148	Hudson-Fulton Champlain commissions (H.R. 1520)
Sec. 335	Cal. 230	S. Con. Res. 6	National Museum of Wildlife Art (H. Con. Res. 116)
Sec. 341	Cal. 285	H.R. 1388	Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail
Sec. 342 .....	.....	H.R. 761	Lewis & Clark NHT visitor center conveyance
Sec. 343 .....	.....	H.R. 986	Eightmile River Wild & Scenic River designation
Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Geological Survey Authorizations			
Sec. 401	Cal. 143	H.R. 1114	Alaska water resources study
Sec. 402	Cal. 250	H.R. 235	Redwood Valley Water District payment schedule
Sec. 403	Cal. 252	H.R. 482	American River Pump Station project transfer
Sec. 404	Cal. 254	H.R. 839	Watkins Dam enlargement
Sec. 405	Cal. 37	S. 255	New Mexico water planning assistance (H.R. 1904)
Sec. 406 .....	.....	H.R. 386	Yakima Project lands and building conveyance
Sec. 407 .....	.....	H.R. 1736	Juab County, Utah conjunctive water use
Sec. 408	Cal. 52	S. 220	A&B Irrigation District contract repayment (H.R. 467)
Department of Energy Authorizations			
Sec. 501	Cal. 360	H.R. 85	Energy technology transfer
Sec. 502	Cal. 379	H.R. 1126	Steel & Aluminum Act amendments
NATURAL RESOURCE PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007			
Title I—Bureau of Land Management Authorizations			
Subtitle A	Cal. 53	S. 275	Prehistoric Trackways National Monument
Subtitle B	Cal. 38	S. 260	Fort Stanton—Snowy River Cave NCA
Subtitle C	Cal. 43	S. 320	Paleontological Resources Protection
Subtitle D	Cal. 39	S. 262	Snake River Birds of Prey NCA Name Change
Subtitle E	Cal. 249	S. 1139	National Landscape Conservation System
Title II—National Park Service Authorizations			
Subtitle A—New Areas, Boundary Modifications, and Studies			
Sec. 201	Cal. 36	S. 245	Clinton Birthplace Home National Historic Site
Sec. 202	Cal. 223	S. 126	Mesa Verde National Park Boundary Modification
Sec. 203	Cal. 231	H.R. 161	Minidoka Internment National Monument
Sec. 204	Cal. 371	S. 722	Walnut Canyon National Monument Study
Subtitle B—Commissions and Advisory Committees			
Sec. 211	Cal. 227	S. 890	Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission
Sec. 212	Cal. 359	S. 1728	Na Hoa Pili O Kaloko-Honokohau advisory commission
Subtitle C—National Trails			
Sec. 221	Cal. 40	S. 268	Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail
Sec. 222	Cal. 226	S. 686	Washington—Rochambeau National Historic Trail
Sec. 223	Cal. 225	S. 580	National Historic Trails study update
Sec. 224	Cal. 365	S. 169	National Historic Trails willing seller authority
Subtitle D—National Heritage Areas			
Sec. 231	Cal. 366	S. 278	National Heritage Areas program and criteria
Sec. 232	Cal. 373	S. 817	Reauthorization of certain existing national heritage areas
Sec. 233	Cal. 357	S. 1182	Quinebaug & Shetucket Rivers National Heritage Corridor
Sec. 234	Cal. 367	S. 289	Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area
Sec. 235	Cal. 368	S. 443	Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area
Sec. 236	Cal. 369	S. 444	South Park National Heritage Area

NATURAL RESOURCE PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007—Continued

Sec. 237	Cal. 372	S. 800	Niagara Falls National Heritage Area
Sec. 238	Cal. 375	S. 955	Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area
Sec. 239	Cal. 355	S. 637	Chattahoochee Trace National Heritage Corridor study
Sec. 240 .....	.....	.....	Abraham Lincoln Kentucky sites national heritage study (amendment to S. 955)

Title III—Bureau of Reclamation and USGS Authorizations

Sec. 301	Cal. 48	S. 263	Deschutes River Conservancy
Sec. 302	Cal. 49	S. 264	Wallowa Lake Dam rehabilitation program
Sec. 303	Cal. 50	S. 265	Little Butte / Bear Creek water resource study
Sec. 304	Cal. 51	S. 266	North Unit Irrigation District
Sec. 305	Cal. 245	S. 175	Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District study
Sec. 306	Cal. 246	S. 542	Snake, Boise, and Payette River systems studies
Sec. 307	Cal. 247	S. 1037	Tumalo Irrigation District water project
Sec. 308	Cal. 253	S. 324	New Mexico water resources study
Sec. 309	Cal. 256	H.R. 902	Water and energy resources
Sec. 310	Cal. 34	S. 240	National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 reauthorization

Title IV—Forest Service Authorizations

Subtitle A—Authorizations

Sec. 401	Cal. 31	S. 202	Coffman Cove administrative site conveyance
Sec. 402	Cal. 32	S. 216	Santa Fe National Forest / Pecos NHP land exchange
Sec. 403	Cal. 33	S. 232	Watershed restoration and enhancement agreements
Sec. 404	Cal. 229	S. 1152	Wildland firefighter safety

Subtitle B	Cal. 370	S. 647	Lewis and Clark Mount Hood Wilderness
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Title V—Department of Energy Authorizations

Sec. 501	Cal. 356	S. 645	Technical criteria for clean coal power initiative
Sec. 502	Cal. 358	S. 1203	Additional Assistant Secretary, Department of Energy
Sec. 503	Cal. 374	S. 838	United States—Israel energy cooperation
Sec. 504	Cal. 376	S. 1089	Alaska natural gas pipeline corridor

Title VI	Cal. 42	S. 283	Compact of Free Association Amendments
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ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2007

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I appreciate everyone's patience. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, October 18; that on Thursday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day and that

there then be a period for the transaction of morning business for 60 minutes, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each and the time be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the Democrats the second half; that at the close of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 3043, the Labor-HHS appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:21 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, October 18, 2007, at 9:30 a.m.